

Data Availability

Human Fertility Database

The HFD contains data for 27 countries plus regional data for Germany and the UK. More countries will be added over time. However, the HFD is limited by the availability of high quality data. At the final stage, the HFD is expected to encompass continuously updated data for 40 to 50 countries and areas.

For all countries listed, the HFD tries to collect the longest possible continuous time series. The length of currently available data sets varies across countries. The longest time series of data for all birth orders combined stems from Sweden (dating to 1891), while the longest time series of birth order-specific data is from the USA (since 1933).

Human Fertility Collection

Data for 99 countries and areas are currently provided in the HFC. Data for all birth orders combined can be found since 1751 (Sweden) and the earliest year for which birth order-specific data are available is 1917 (the USA). The main data sources are online databases of national statistical offices, statistical and scientific publications, and data collections of individual researchers and research organizations (e.g., the European Demographic Observatory – ODE).

Unlike the HFD, the HFC includes many alternative fertility indicators. HFC data vary in quality and are not limited to continuous time series. Due to variability in data origins and estimation methods, the level of data comparability and reliability is lower than that of the HFD. Therefore, users must be cautious when using these data for their research.

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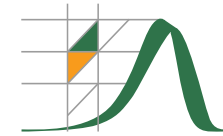
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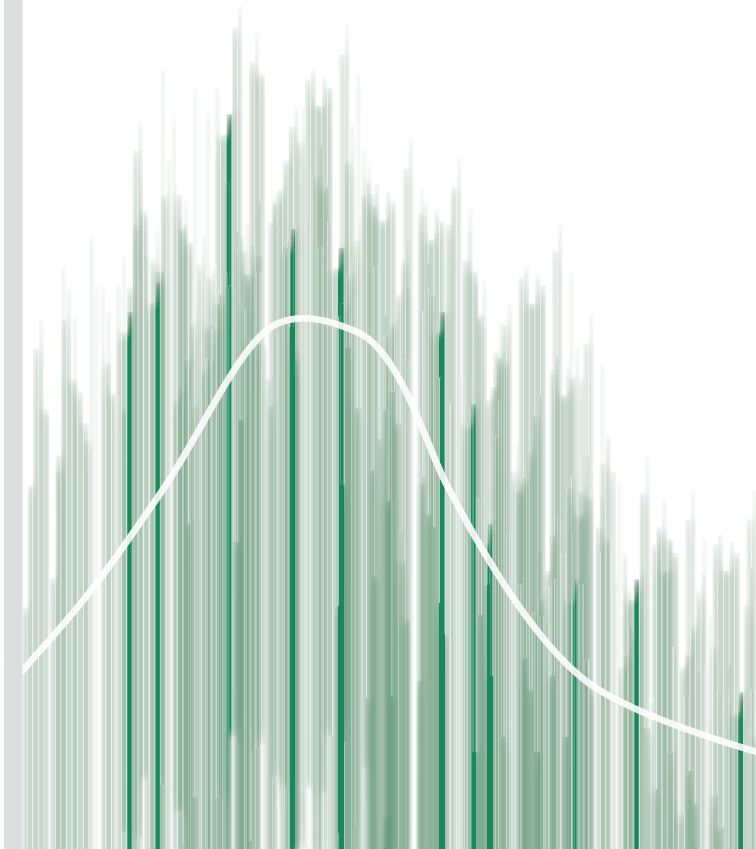
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Human Fertility Data Project

HFD - humanfertility.org

HFC - fertilitydata.org



a joint project of



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Human Fertility Data Project

Background

The Human Fertility Data Project, a joint endeavour of the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR) and the Vienna Institute of Demography (VID), aims to provide free and user-friendly access to a variety of fertility data.

The Project consists of two companion databases based at the MPIDR in Rostock, Germany: the Human Fertility Database (HFD) and the Human Fertility Collection (HFC).

The HFD is based entirely on official vital statistics and provides detailed period and cohort fertility data of high quality. A great emphasis is placed on data checking and documentation, on uniformity of applied methods and data design, and on providing parity-specific fertility indicators. The HFD follows four guiding principles: comparability, flexibility, accessibility, and reproducibility of the presented data.

The HFC has been designed to supplement the HFD and to incorporate fertility data that are valuable for fertility research but do not meet all quality standards of the HFD. Thus the geographic coverage of the HFC is much broader, including less developed parts of the world. HFC data are assembled from various, not necessarily official, data sources. At present, the HFC displays period fertility data for all birth orders combined and by birth order. However, in the future more fertility dimensions (place of residence, ethnicity, race, etc.) shall be included. We welcome submissions of any new data to the HFC.

Human Fertility Database (HFD)

Available at www.humanfertility.org

The Human Fertility Database
Directors: Vladimir M. Shkolnikov (MPIDR) and Tomáš Sobotta (VID)
Founding Director: Joshua R. Goldstein (UC Berkeley, formerly MPIDR)

The Human Fertility Database (HFD) is a joint project of the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR) in Rostock, Germany and the Vienna Institute of Demography (VID) in Vienna, Austria, based at MPIDR. We seek to provide free and user-friendly access to detailed and high-quality data on period and cohort fertility and thus to facilitate research on changes and inter-country differences in fertility in the past and in the modern era. The HFD is entirely based on official vital statistics and places a great emphasis on data checking and documentation and on warranting data comparability across time and countries by means of uniform methodology. [Read more](#)

The MPIDR and the VID also collaborate on the Human Fertility Collection (www.fertilitydata.org), which is supplementing the HFD. The HFC incorporates a variety of valuable fertility data from diverse, not necessarily official, data sources. The major responsibility for the quality of data entering the HFC rests with data producers/providers. Therefore, HFC data, unlike those in the HFD, might be of lower quality. For users who seek fast access to the most commonly used summary indicators of period and cohort fertility, we provide excel tables comprising the following indicators for all the HFC countries:

HFD summary indicators				
Total fertility rate	Mean age at birth	Mean age at first birth	Completed cohort fertility	Cohort childlessness
We seek to provide open, international access to these data. At present, the database contains detailed period and cohort fertility data for the following countries:				
Detailed data by country				
Austria	Estonia	Italy	Russia	Ukraine
Belarus	Finland	Japan	Slovakia	U.K.
Bulgaria	France	Lithuania	Slovenia	U.S.A.
Canada	Germany	Netherlands	Sweden	
Chile	Hungary	Norway	Switzerland	
Czech Republic	Iceland	Portugal	Taiwan	

The HFD will be continually updated and more countries will be added with time. Below we present countries which are on our "coming next" list. For these countries we provide only age-specific fertility rates based on the original official data. Please be aware that these data have not been fully processed, checked, and corrected and may not be free of mistakes and biases.

Preliminary release	
Ireland	Spain

For more information, please begin by reading an [overview](#) of the database. If you have comments or questions, or trouble gaining access to the data, please [contact us](mailto:contact@hfd.org).

Joint project of the MPIDR and the VID, based at the MPIDR.

The data and indicators available in the HFD:

- ▶ Live births, population exposure, fertility rates by age and birth order
- ▶ Summary indicators of period and cohort fertility
- ▶ Cohort and period fertility tables, conditional fertility rates by age and parity, and table summary indicators

Example: HFD country data page

United States of America

Summary Indicators | Age-Specific Data | Fertility Tables | Input Data

Background and Documentation

Period summary indicators

	All birth orders combined	By birth order
Total number of live births	1933-2013	1933-2013
Crude birth rate	1933-2013	1933-2013
Total fertility rate	1933-2013	1933-2013
Mean age at birth	1933-2013	1933-2013
Standard deviation in mean age at birth	1933-2013	1933-2013

Cohort summary indicators

	All birth orders combined	By birth order
Completed cohort fertility	1918-1973	1918-1973
Parity progression ratios	1918-1973	1918-1973
Mean age at birth	1918-1973	1918-1973
Standard deviation in mean age at birth	1918-1973	1918-1973

Other synthetic indicators

	All birth orders combined	By birth order
Tempo-adjusted TFR	1934-2012	1934-2012

Data sources

All country data in one zip file

Country page last updated: 2016-01-18
Permanent URL for this dataset: <http://www.humanfertility.org/cgi-bin/country.php?country=USA&update=20160118>

Human Fertility Collection (HFC)

Available at www.fertilitydata.org

Human Fertility Collection

At present, data for 99 countries are provided in the HFC. The HFC data can be downloaded either as a single zipped file for all countries or by country, data for all birth orders combined and data by birth order are available for download separately. Please note that by downloading the HFC data you agree to be bound to the terms of the user agreement.

Zipped data files		
Indicator	All birth orders combined	By birth order
ASFR and CPFR, standardized age scale	All HFC data (4.9Mb)	All HFC data (5.2Mb)
ASFR, original age scale	All HFC data (2.1Mb)	All HFC data (2.8Mb)
Total fertility rate and mean age at birth	All HFC data (119.6kb) [graphs]	All HFC data (126kb)

Data by country

Albania	Croatia	Iceland	Moldova	Singapore
American Samoa	Cuba	India	Mongolia	Slovakia
Argentina	Cyprus	Indonesia	Montenegro	Slovenia
Armenia	Czech Republic	Iran	Netherlands	Spain
Australia	Czechoslovakia	Ireland	New Zealand	Sri Lanka
Austria	Denmark	Israel	Norway	Sweden
Azerbaijan	Egypt	Italy	Pakistan	Switzerland
Bahamas	Estonia	Japan	Taiwan	Taiwan
Bahrain	Faroe Island	Kazakhstan	Panama	Thailand
Bangladesh	Finland	Kosovo	Philippines	Tunisia
Belarus	France	Latvia	Poland	Turkey
Belgium	Georgia	Liechtenstein	Portugal	UK, England and Wales
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Germany	Lithuania	Qatar	UK, Northern Ireland
Brazil	Germany, East	Luxembourg	Republic of Korea	UK, Scotland
Bulgaria	Germany, West	Macedonia	Romania	Ukraine
Canada	Greece	Malaysia	Russia	United Kingdom
Chile	Greenland	Malta	San Marino	Uruguay
China	Hong Kong	Mauritius	Serbia	USA
Costa Rica	Hungary	Mexico	Serbia and Montenegro	Yugoslavia
		Micronesia	Seychelles	

The data and indicators available in the HFC:

- ▶ Fertility rates by age and birth order (original as well as standardized age scale and birth order range)
- ▶ Cumulative period fertility rates
- ▶ Total fertility rates and mean ages at birth

Example: HFC country data page

SWITZERLAND

Pooled Data Files

Indicator	All birth orders combined	By birth order
ASFR and CPFR, standardized age scale	1932-2013	1969-2013
Total fertility rate and mean age at birth	1932-2013 [graphs]	1969-2013

Data by source

Source	Source type	All birth orders combined	By birth order
European Demographic Observatory (ODE). Data collection submitted to the HFC by Jean-Paul Sardon, 2011.	research estimates	1932-2009	2006-2008
Burkišmher, M. (2015). Estimations based on birth registration data [unpublished data]. Submitted to the HFC by M. Burkišmher, October, 2011 and January, 2015.	research estimates	1969-2013	1969-2013
Festy, P. (1979). La fécondité des pays occidentaux de 1870 à 1970 [Fertility in Western Countries (1870-1970)]. INED: Travaux et Documents Cahier nr. 85 Presses Universitaires de France.	research estimates	1932-1975	
Federal Statistical Office of Switzerland (1972). Die Fruchtbarkeit in der Schweiz 1932-1971. [Fertility in Switzerland (1932-1971)]. Sektion Bevölkerungsbewegung Belege 72.09 (4). Data accessed at INED (library) in February 2014.	vital statistics	1932-1971	